



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

KIRKPATRICK & LOCKHART NICHOLSON GRAHAM, LLP  
STATE STREET FINANCIAL CENTER  
ONE LINCOLN STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02111-2950

**COPY MAILED**

**JUN 23 2006**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of	:	
Maher Amer	:	DECISION ON REQUEST
Application No. 10/629,644	:	TO WITHDRAW FROM
Filed: July 29, 2003	:	RECORD
Attorney Docket No. ICE-008	:	


This is a decision on the Request to Withdraw as attorney or agent of record under 37 CFR § 1.36(b), filed on December 29, 2005.

The request is **NOT APPROVED**.

A review of the file record indicates that Thomas Turano and the attorneys/agents associated with Customer No. 22832: (1) do not have power of attorney in this patent application; but (2) have been employed or otherwise engaged in the proceedings in this patent application.

Further, the Office cannot approve the request at this time since the reasons provided do not meet any of the conditions under the mandatory or permissive categories enumerated in 37 CFR 10.40. Section 10.40 of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulation states, "[a] practitioner shall not withdraw from employment in a proceeding before the Office without permission from the Office[.]" More specifically, 37 CFR 10.40 states, "[i]f paragraph (b) of this section is not applicable, a practitioner may not request permission to withdraw in matter pending before the Office unless such request or such withdrawal is" for one the permissive reasons listed in 37 CFR 10.40(c). The reasons set forth in the request, "application has been sold to a third party", do not meet any the conditions set forth in 37 CFR 10.40.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Andrea Smith at 571-272-3226.

  
Andrea Smith  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions

Conferee: 